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WEEKLY BULLETIN

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DETROIT, MICHIGAN, JUNE 1, 1943

No. 22

FINANCE CALLED BOTTLENECK TO PREFABRICATED HOMES

Architect Says After Victory Warfare Must Be Turned to Welfare

After the war American industry will have the technical skill and capacity to produce the private housing to which the public is entitled, but there will have to be devised a new system of financing these homes which will allow the public to buy them, according to L. Morgan Yost, Associate Editor of American Lumberman.

Yost, an architect, is in attendance at the American Institute of Architects' 75th Annual Meeting at the Netherland Plaza Hotel this week.

"Change brings with it many disruptions, and too rapid change could produce chaos," Yost says. "In human nature the unconscious defense against this chaos is a resistance to change and a willingness to discount predictions of major social and economic changes.

"But change does come when the logic of the mind rises above the sentiment for the status quo. Despite sincere convictions of people that man could not fly, man does fly and that very fact has changed the world beyond even the imaginations of those who worked to make flight possible. If we have learned anything tangible these past fifty years it should be that we should not limit the horizon of our imaginations.

"But flights of the imagination need a taking off point and should take bearings on all known points to establish the course as accurately as possible.

"Prefabrication is a very simple thing, easily understood by the American mind, but when it comes to prefabrication of the house the sentimental defensive mechanism of the average man shuts his mind to the possibility," Yost believes. "He just doesn't want his home to be like every one else," he continued. "Yet even now the American home is such a stereotyped thing that the man from Mars could not tell one from the other any more than an auto mechanic can tell one horse from another. There are differences, but not in principle. The dweller is so used to the whole thing that he sees the minor shades of differences, the nuances. To the musician two recordings of the same score by different conductors are grossly different. To us ordinary people they sound practically identical.

"It is therefore not the fact that the public doesn't want its houses alike that has hindered prefabrication, it is the fact that he doesn't like to get used to a new set of principles, even though they may be better. And better, we are convinced, they are.

"This same fact, that it has been difficult for the average man to get used to a change in fundamental conception

has produced failure in prefabrication since many prefabricators, egged on by sentimental senators, have spawned houses in the image of the codfish houses, supposedly to please the public, and as a result have pleased no one.

"Differences there will be in the prefabricated house—once it is allowed to be itself—differences greater and more distinctive, richer and more satisfying than the differences now possible in our so-called conventional house which is a curious mixture of modern prefabrication and medieval joinery.

"Once we are over the hump of public acceptance, which cannot be gained by pussyfooting on gable roofs, imagination can make the possibilities limitless. The public has nothing whatever to lose and it must be made to realize that fact. The false sentimentality of living in crinoline is to be replaced by the true sentiment of a rich home life enhanced by all of our modern knowledge.

"The American public will be entitled to this better mode of life when the war is won. Whether or not they can have it is dependent upon many factors.

"Before the war only one-seventh of the families living in cities or towns could have afforded new homes. That is, only one-seventh could pay more than \$40 a month for housing. The custom built method of construction well suited these few families.

"War and the depression, fire and obsolescence have created a vast demand for housing. This demand cannot be met by methods we have known. Nor does this demand require governmental subsidy in its fulfillment if the whole conception of housing is changed to suit the needs.

"One half of all families living in the towns make enough to pay between \$20 and \$40 a month for housing. These are in addition to those who could now afford houses. Granted that prefabrication and new conceptions can reduce the cost of a house so that it may be acquired by those

(See PREFABRICATED HOMES, Page 3)

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PREFABRICATED HOMES (Cont'd from Page 1)

able to pay from \$20 to \$40 a month, the matter of down payment still has to be solved. Families who are renting find it difficult to amass a down payment.

"Our mortgage systems, then, are as antiquated as our homes and must be remodelled to go hand in hand with the new houses. Without one the other is impossible.

"Current attempts by FHA to reduce the equity necessary in the purchase of a low cost home are but a stretching of the present system and may be likened to putting a new front door on an old house when the plumbing system is unsanitary. It may be easier to get into the house but not so pleasant once you are there.

"There are a number of reasons besides the down payment which make our present mortgage system unsuited to the economic and social conditions which will prevail after the war. The fact that a period of depression, or illness, or misfortune can force a family to lose a home, along with what equity they have in it, lessens the demand for new houses. Since the new houses must have production to gain their advantages this objection to home-buying must be eliminated.

"Another factor demonstrating the unsuitability of the present mortgage system to a new conception of housing is its rigidity. The incomes of families change from year to year, even from month to month. Families grow from two people to several, maybe to many, then go back to two. The new houses will be flexible. How can a present day mortgage conform?

"A mortgage once placed takes no account of the deterioration of neighborhood. No relief is allowed should the value decrease more than by ordinary depreciation. This is a hazard that the buyer must suffer, though certainly the buyer is ill equipped to foresee changes. Should he risk his equity when the mortgagee risks nothing, as by the time blight has appeared the mortgage would be paid down to such a point that the mortgagee would have little risk of losing?

"Also, today's middle income families move from two to seven times in 25 years. Knowing the chances are in favor of a move, maybe several, before the mortgage is paid off most families dismiss the thought of acquiring a home. Couldn't a system be devised which would have the mortgage move with the family rather than stay on the house?

"In this discussion we are assuming that individual home ownership by the middle income family is more desirable than subsidized or rental group housing. Subsidy costs the taxpayer money. It does not give private industry much of a look-in, and after all, without private industry we haven't much of a country. That incentive called pride of ownership is generally lacking in the case of subsidized housing. The home owner in the middle income group works harder, plays harder than the renter. He is the substantial citizen. If private industry is an inherent part of our economic and social system then private property is also part of it. Home ownership is the very foundation of that system of private property.

"Therefore, it seems reasonable that the fountain-head of a mass produced housing business lies not with the manufacturer, nor with the designer, nor the developer or prefabricator but with the source of investment capital, which in the present system means the insurance companies, the banks, certain private estates, blocks of private capital, and mutual savings and loan associations of various kinds.

"In the past the mortgage banker has based his risks on past experience. This was not satisfactory as it took no account of present or future developments. It might even be said that he developed the eyes in the back of his head to such an extent, and became so fond of using them, that he forgot he could also look forward. It is time now for him to use his forward eyes again.

"A new system of financing small homes cannot spring up over night anymore than a satisfactory system of prefabrication can come overnight. We know that plans have been proposed, but as yet comparatively little thought has been given to the idea. It is of prime concern to that investment capital which is controlled by building material

interests. It is unlikely that they are not thinking along these lines. Yet we have heard nothing of it.

"The prefabricated or mass-produced house has had unbounded publicity. The advent of the practical prefab will open up, as a building market, half of the urban families in the country. That is business which can go through the lumber dealer in one way or another. It is in addition to the business volume of new houses before the war.

"The need right now is for publicity on the method by which all these families are to acquire these homes. It may be that some prodding by the manufacturers, the prefabricators and the dealers is necessary to bring it about. The need for mass production and volume sales brought about the universal system of automobile financing. So will the same needs bring a system of home financing—but it will not be the same answer as the problem is different.

"We have plotted the course. What will be wrought by imagination unbound?

"We can have radiant heating systems that do away with dirty registers, blasts of air, bulky radiators; that will not dry the air and will be easier on furniture and health. There may be no furnace or boiler, but merely electric coils hidden in the walls and floor. Electricity will be abundant. The cost of the furnace may go toward new underground electric mains. Metallic paints will reflect the heat back into the rooms. You will be comfortable though the air temperature is but 55 degrees.

"We can have kitchens that cook by radio frequency electricity-radionics. It will take no longer to cook a twelve pound than a two pound roast and it is cooked as well in the center as on the outside. No juices or flavor are lost. Foods can be warmed over and they will look and taste as when first cooked. The refrigerator will be up where you can look into it without stooping and underneath will be a quick freeze unit where fresh goods may be kept indefinitely.

"We can have bathrooms with fixtures all in one piece, no dirt pockets, easy to clean, easy to install. The only connections are to the cold water tubing, one to the sewer. Hot water will be produced as needed in an instantaneous electric water heater built into the bathroom unit. A dial will adjust the thermostat which electrically controls the temperature by allowing the water to pass through small tubes wound with heating coils. The temperature is controlled to within two degrees merely by setting a control dial. Water volume is controlled by a single valve—no mixing. Shower curtain rod fits into the fixture and serves also to supply the shower head.

"It may be that all these things at once are too expensive. But any one of them is too expensive without mass production. The money is there. It is being spent on housing anyway. A way must be found to give the people the true value for the housing dollar."

The Victory Book Campaign has collected 157,000 books in the metropolitan area, Everett N. Petersen of the Public Library, local director of the drive, announced yesterday. All but 10,000 of these books have already been sorted, and usable volumes have been sent on to our soldiers, sailors and marines.

The total for the country has now reached the 5,000,000 mark, Petersen said. Unfortunately however some of these volumes are in poor physical condition or otherwise unsuitable for our service men. This means that orders on hand for 5,032,445 books cannot be completely filled until more volumes are collected.

In Detroit therefore the Victory Book Campaign will continue as long as the need exists. Books may still be left at the Public Library or dropped into one of the collection boxes in schools and office buildings. Detroiters who wish to see our fighting men get the best books obtainable are also urged to buy one new book a month and turn it over to the Victory Book Campaign.

* * *

The Chicago architectural firm of Rapp & Rapp received the national award sponsored by "Box-office Magazine" for the most outstanding new theater project completed during 1942—the Valentine theater, Toledo, O. It was selected from more than 250 theaters.

NEWS FROM NEW JERSEY

*Being Minutes of the Secretary, Clement W. Fairweather,
Reprinted from the Octagon*

The current year's work of the New Jersey Chapter started with the September meeting. On account of the fact that the management of our usual place of venue had not reserved our quarters for our regular meeting night, we had arranged to meet at one of our choicer night clubs in the smarter section of Newark. Here, after passing the circular bar, or not, as the case might be, we assembled in a tastefully decorated back room and began our grave deliberations. The Secretary, who had made the arrangements for the meeting and who had guaranteed an attendance of twenty-five, was somewhat chagrined at finding only fifteen present. This meant ten squabs left over, which would have been wasted if it hadn't been for the help of the help. The predominant note of the proceedings was a feeling of pessimism as to the state of the architectural profession today. Everybody seemed to feel that something should be done about it. Nothing was. Sounds of the festivities in the adjoining room came floating in through the muffled loud speaker, and at nine-thirty, we brought our meeting to a halt, and merged with the circular throng.

The Secretary, having given a guarantee of fifteen, twenty-five of us met in the same room for the October meeting and at once plunged into our work. During the reading of the Minutes an unfortunate contretemps occurred. The little torch singer, who constituted a decorative motif in the center of the circular bar, unaware of the names of the many distinguished architects who were present in the back room and having been able to ascertain only that of the Secretary, announced through the now unmuffled loud speaker that the next number would be sung in honor of Mr. Fairweather. It was a song about love. The reading of the Minutes continued but our face red, and read. Later on, during a very solemn discussion about the low state in which the profession finds itself today, the Singer's voice again floated in with an impassioned song which bore no relevance to the topic under consideration; so we adjourned, to stay adjourned until we could find a home which would be more suitable for our years, dignity and gloom.

Unavoidably, the Secretary was absent from the November meeting so we must rely on the notes of acting secretary Lauren V. Pohlman for a description of what took place then. It seems that the theme song which permeated the proceedings was the low state in which the profession finds itself today with detailed consideration of the causes; which was the muscling in of others on our territory. Satisfactory remedies were not found and the meeting broke up without disorder.

We didn't hold the usual Christmas party with ladies and everything, on account of the low state which confronts the profession today, but we did attempt to get a little Christmas cheer into the December meeting. Thirty-five were present and Mr. D. G. Aronberg, Project Manager, Orangeburg Staging Center, gave us a witty and friendly address on the subject of cooperation between architects and builders. Himself a builder, he spoke in terms which so pleased his audience that they ordered his talk spread upon the Minutes. We quote from this address as follows:—"I was brought up, as a contractor should be, with proper awe of an architect and was given the erroneous idea that you couldn't be an architect unless you were outstandingly mean and arbitrary. Of course, I've since found out that this isn't so, that all mean and stubborn people aren't necessarily architects; maybe only about half are. (The other became specification writers)" "Specification writing is a subject to which I have given intensive study—perhaps some day you will permit me to read you a paper on the cowardly clauses of the five orders of architecture." "This was the period when the word architect was synonymous with 'Atelier,' 'Beaux Arts,' and 6B pencils. Ages were spent in preparing beautiful drawings, and specifications were profuse with such terms as 'Cheneau,' 'entourage,' and 'voussoir.'" "This was

the period when the architect was getting his full fee of 6%—so he was 'in the chips' and his decision was really final, and his aim unerring with his malacca cane as he would point and roar, 'tear it down.'" "The relationship during this period was really that of master and slave, and the only contractors who survived were those who skimmed with materials—" "Competent architects and competent builders working together with a common objective, can accomplish results never before attained by any other method of procedure." It was a witty address throughout, and a thoughtful one too, and it took our minds for the moment off the low state which confronts the architectural profession today. The address may be read in full in the Minutes of the meeting, on payment of a small fee to the Secretary. Neil J. Convery presided over the January meeting due to the absence of the President, who, with various others of our members, is engaged on war time work. After routine business was disposed of a general discussion took place as to our problems, the general trend of the thought being that things had come to a pretty pass, were at a low ebb, and stood in need of correction. Joseph Hettel spoke thoughtfully on the subject. Neil Bogert seemed comparatively cheerful and said that he was tidying his office and throwing out those preliminary projects which had not gone ahead and whose promoters had passed on to places where the streets were paved with gold—as he charitably put it. It seemed to the Secretary that that kind of client should end up in places where the streets are paved with good intentions.

Features of the February meeting were talks by Kenneth Dalzell (on emphasizing the fundamentals of construction, and asserting ourselves, so that we will no longer find ourselves in the sad state to which the profession has sunk today) and by Stanley Leeks on his experiences doing war work in the bad lands of South Dakota.

In conclusion, and writing seriously, we have found this year's meetings stimulating, and necessary. We have not dwelt upon the business side of our sessions in writing this account of them, but every month there has been something important which has required action. For forty-three years the New Jersey Chapter has met every month except during the summer, but this year we considered meeting on alternate months only. We decided to carry on as usual, and considering that many of our members are in the services or engaged on war work outside of the state, the attendances have been good and the meetings well worth while.

CLEMENT W. FAIRWEATHER, Secretary

* * *

Dear Mr. Fairweather:

I was sitting quietly in my office yesterday afternoon ruminating on the present sad state of the profession when the postman brought the Octagon for March containing the report of the recent meetings of your Chapter.

They say that the best to make a sick man feel well is to show him somebody who is sicker than he is—and I hope your Chapter members won't feel offended if I say that after reading your "minutes" I attacked my daily crossword puzzle with such zest that it was completed in less than half the usual time.

Furthermore, on completing the puzzle I was still so fired with ambition that instead of taking my usual afternoon snooze on the drafting table, I turned the key in the door and went to a double feature thriller at a local motion picture emporium. Thus with one gesture I was able to express true architectural contempt for any clients who might have been beating a path to my door, and at the same time secured some valuable references data for the design of a slimy post-war subterranean crypt for the incarceration of the enemies of our profession.

This morning the whole world seems brighter. The Republicans have scored another smashing victory at the polls in Michigan with the result that our state government is again back in the hands of a few people and I have commenced the preliminary sketches for the post-war crypt. I am planning to make the walls of clear tempered glass so that while the occupants slowly go insane they will be able to see the anticipatory gleam in the eyes of the worms as they crawl around outside patiently waiting for an end to their meatless Tuesdays.

Another reason for making the walls of tempered glass is that it will cost much more than stone. Consequently if the project doesn't go ahead I will have lost a much bigger fee than I would have lost if it had been a stone crypt, and perhaps by reason of that loss I may be able to feel in even lower spirits than the architects of New Jersey. When I attain that unenviable condition I will let you know so that the members of your Chapter may in turn be stimulated to constructive effort.

Meanwhile may I say that your "minutes" convince me that in addition to a good two dollar cigar for the laboring man, this country needs more secretaries with a sense of humor. Congratulations on a very human portrayal of such prosaic occasions. Very truly yours,

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Volume 17

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No. 22 23

ASHTON HEADS A.I.A.

ELECTED AT 75th ANNUAL MEETING IN CINCINNATI

Raymond J. Ashton, of Salt Lake City, Utah, was named president of the American Institute of Architects at the closing session of its 75th annual meeting, in the Netherland Plaza Hotel, Cincinnati, May 28. Unopposed for the office, he succeeds Richmond H. Sreve, of New York.

Walter R. MacCormack was reelected vice president, Alexander C. Robinson III, of Cleveland, Ohio, was elected secretary, and James R. Edmunds, of Baltimore, Md., treasurer.

It was in 1889—54 years ago—that the Institute last met in Cincinnati. Among those present at the 75th convention was Louis G. Dittoe, of Cincinnati, believed to be the only surviving delegate to the former Cincinnati meeting. The Cincinnati Times-Star, of May 25, 1943, carried a picture of delegates on a tour of inspection, via coach and four, with the quotation, "The impression that the visitor received of the best part of the city was that it consisted of but a single square of not very imposing buildings, amid which cheap lodging houses and shooting galleries nestled cheek-by-jowl with more pretentious buildings." How times have changed! The station, the esplanade, beautiful buildings, parks and boulevards and finally—the Netherland Plaza group. We believe that, in the light of this discovery, all other plans should be restudied.



Ashton

Good Publicity

Of course, Walter MacCormack's subject of Post War Reconstruction was the convention. He did a marvelous job and great credit has resulted to the architectural profession. There was a good press and the architects were placed in

the best possible light. Local papers daily carried comprehensive statements and on May 27th the Cincinnati Enquirer carried an editorial on "City Planning" inspired by statements at the convention. An outstanding example of good publicity was Architectural Forum's full page ad in the Enquirer of May 26, "The New Frontier is right where you live", presenting planning in its proper light. This page also appeared in New York papers. Cincinnati papers were most cooperative indicating a thoroughly job of groundwork by John Becker and his local committee. And, as Royal Barry Wills says in the Current Pencil Points, we need one in every community.

Miss Marion I. Manley, a delegate from the Florida South Chapter, was sought out for a statement regarding women architects. She said,

"I have always preached that:

"Given equal talent and equal training, there is no reason why men shouldn't make just as good particular prejudice."

Not the least delightful of the events was the tour arranged by local architects. Instead of the coach and four, they seem to have plenty of C books. This tour of the

See ASHTON— Page 4

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Speaker: Commander John R. Perry (CEC), U.S.N., Director, Administration and Personnel, Bureau of Yards and Docks, Navy Department, Washington, D. C.

As Director of all Seabee activities of that bureau, Commander Perry will have something of value for the entire building industry. Don't miss this opportunity.

Reservations should be made as early as possible, with Ralph A. MacMullan, RA. 6297.



Com. Perry

J. D. CHUBB

John D. Chubb, one of the best-known school architects in the middle west, died suddenly in his home, May 8, at Chicago. He was 74 years old.

Born in Plymouth, Devonshire County, England, January 15, 1869, Mr. Chubb was brought to Marquette, Michigan, at the age of 3, later returning to England where he was reared and educated.

Returning to the United States in the 1890's, he established an architectural office in Marquette. His first work there was planning of the Duluth, South Shore & Atlantic railway station which still stands.

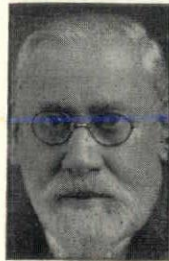
Leaving Marquette, Mr. Chubb went to Chicago and soon became noted for his school architecture. He planned and designed many public and financial structures in Michigan, Wisconsin and Illinois.

Some of the buildings planned by Mr. Chubb in Marquette, standing as monuments to his science, are the Graveraet high school, Baraga parochial school, St. John's cathedral, Fisher street school and the remodeled Nester school. He also designed many homes in this city.

Other Upper Peninsula schools Mr. Chubb designed are in Calumet, Painesdale, Iron Mountain, Escanaba, Menominee, Sault Ste. Marie, Newberry, Rapid River, Manistique, Negaunee, Beacon, Iron River and Munising.

He was a member of the Marquette club more than 25 years and also belonged to the Elks club and Masonic organizations. He had long been a member of the Michigan Society of Architects.

He leaves his wife, two brothers, Albert, Los Angeles, Calif., and Alfred, Plymouth, England, and five nephews, sons of a brother, William H. Chubb, who reside in Marquette.



Mr. Chubb

WAYNE ART STUDENTS EXHIBIT

Current at the Detroit Institute of Arts, lower galleries, is the Seventh Annual Art Exhibition of Wayne University students.

A jury has selected certain entries for meritorious awards in the fields of Design, Crafts, Painting, Sculpture, Camouflage, Textiles, Metal Work and other arts.

The exhibition, which continues through June 14, is most creditable and affords an opportunity of seeing what is being done in this line at Wayne University, what the art students are thinking and doing.

JUNE 8, 1943

ECUADOREAN ARCHITECTURAL COMPETITION

The Ministry of Public Works and Communications of Ecuador announces an architectural competition for the selection of a design for a new Legislative Palace to be erected in Quito. Total cost of the structure shall not exceed 15,000,000 Ecuadorean sucres, which is equivalent to approximately \$1,000,000 U. S. currency.

The architectural competition will be divided into two stages, the first of which will close October 1, on which date competitors will be required to deposit their drawings with the Director General of Public Works in Quito. A five-man jury composed of the Director of Public Works of Ecuador, the Engineer member of the Quito Municipal Council, a representative of the Ecuadorean Society of Architects, and two members from the Senate and Chamber of Deputies of Ecuador, will select the five designs, the authors of which will be invited to participate in the second stage of the competition. The privilege to participate in the second will be the only award in the first stage of the competition.

The second stage must be completed within four months from the date fixed by the Advisory Board. The jury will consist of two architects from other American Republics in addition to the five who will make the preliminary selections. The awards in the second stage of the competition will be as follows:

First prize, 50,000 sucres (approximately \$3,500 U.S.)

Second prize, 30,000 sucres (approximately \$2,100 U.S.)

Third prize, 20,000 sucres (approximately \$1,400 U.S.)

Fourth prize, 10,000 sucres (approximately \$700 U.S.)

Fifth prize, 10,000 sucres (approximately \$700 U.S.)

The architect whose design may be selected for the building shall have a preferential right to undertake the direction of the work. The fees, which shall be determined by agreement with the Government of Ecuador, shall not exceed 3 per cent of the total cost of the project.

The drawings and sketches to be submitted in the preliminary stage of the competition shall include the following: A general plan of the building and the site, drawn to a scale of 1:500; a bird's-eye or aerial view; the main floor; the mezzanine; the other floors included in the building; a sectional view; a longitudinal view; views of the north, south, east and west sides; a general perspective; an interior perspective of any of the chambers; and an internal perspective of the Great Hall.

The projects shall contemplate the use as far as possible of national materials or materials of Ecuadorean manufacture, and shall limit to a minimum the use of reinforced concrete or metal. The style of architecture is optional with the competitor and may feature the traditional or classical, the modern or functional, or combination of the two.

Further and more complete details with reference to the architectural competition may be obtained from the Pan American Union in Washington, D.C.

A bill to amend the Illinois statute on the practice of architecture to provide stiffer penalties for violations has been introduced into the legislature.

The amendment would boost fines for violations, which now range from \$25 to \$100 to \$200, to \$500 and provide imprisonment up to one year.

Several points, among them being the practice of architecture without being registered, are listed as violations. The bill also provides for a fund of \$1000 to be used to mail lists of registered architects to all state's attorneys, registered architects and building inspectors.

FOR DEFENSE



ASHTON (Continued from Page 1)

beauties of the Queen City was most refreshing after a week in the hotel. The ladies too report a most pleasant visit, with entertainment arranged by a ladies' committee headed by Mrs. Becker.

Honors and Fellowships

The Producers Council, meeting concurrently, received unusually good press notices because of the importance of their subject matter. Their new officers are:

Douglas Whittlock, president; Russell T. Tree, vice-president; Gordon C. Hay, vice-president; C. W. Stuart, secretary; Irving W. Clark, treasurer. New directors include: G. M. Fletcher, C. W. Kraft, E. J. Gossett, L. C. Hart, W. V. Peters, J. J. March, F. A. Sanson and North Wright. Two carry-over directors are George J. Haas and J. L. Kretzmer.

Fellowships in The American Institute of Architects were awarded to Lemuel C. Dillenback, Frederick G. Frost, Arthur C. Holden, Leigh Hunt, Sylvanus B. Marston, Hugh Martin, C. Julian Oberwarth, Richard Shaw, Thomas Mott Shaw, Francis Palmer Smith, Erle Gulick Stillwell and Edgar I. Williams.

Certificates of Honorary and Honorary Corresponding Memberships went to Richard F. Back, I. T. Frary, and Carlos Contreras.

Concerning plans for a new publication the report of the Board stated,

"The Board recognizes that The Institute should have a monthly publication which would be a more effective instrument of expression than is possible within the limitations of the annual appropriations heretofore made. The present **Octagon** was established in 1929 as a bulletin of The Institute to transmit official notices to members, to report activities of The Board and of the committees, and in other ways to advise on the activities of the organization. It has followed that line to the present time.

"To develop ways and means of changing **The Octagon** into a vital professional publication which will be of personal interest and practical value to every practicing architect, The Board has authorized the engagement of a prospective editor, to make a survey of the requirements, such survey to cover a complete setup and budget costs for expanding **The Octagon** and publishing it monthly under the management of a permanent editor who would be in full control of the publication on a full-time basis, but under the direction of The Board.

"The Board is aware that a publication of this type must be subsidized by The Institute, if the project is found to be justified by the proposed survey.

"In order to remove possible handicaps in a study of this matter, the present Rule of The Board which provides that no advertising shall appear in **The Octagon** has been repealed and The Board has adopted a new Rule to the effect that advertising may be accepted by The Institute, to appear in **The Octagon** or other publications, with the reservation that any such advertising must remain under the control and supervision of The Board as to its sources, character, and quantity."

On the subject of unification The Board had the following report:

"The purpose to unify the members of the profession throughout the nation has had wider and more effective support in the past year on the part of all types of professional organizations. It is more generally accepted as a necessary step to enable the architects to meet changed conditions related to their practice, and to assure adequate representation.

"Unification by combining existing organizations is to be considered in comparison with the creation of a profession united through corporate membership in The Institute.

"After reviewing the advances already made and the principles which should be established for greatest strength, it is the judgement of The Board:

- "(1) That we continue the present policy of encouraging state associations and their affiliation with The American Institute of Architects, including their representation in Institute affairs through delegates to the annual meeting and through the State Association Director;

- "(2) That we continue our efforts to bring into corporate membership of The American Institute of Architects all qualified architects of good character in the United States;

- "(3) That the ideal of unification is that The American Institute of Architects be the national organization of all qualified architects of good character in the United States, formed into state associations consisting of one or more chapters of corporate members of The Institute.

"Where only one chapter exists, it shall function as the state association.

"There is active discussion of this ideal throughout the nation supported by professional groups endeavoring to find means of bringing about local cooperation which will approach this ideal.

"Paralleling this spirit of assembling the elements of our strength through combination is the steady growth of our numbers through corporate membership. Under the able leadership of Mr. A. C. Robinson, III, Chairman of the Membership Committee, and through chapter activity in many areas, corporate membership has increased to a total of 3,768, a number greater than ever before in The Institute's history. The number affiliated with The Institute through state associations brings this total strength to 6,143. In noting this most gratifying condition The Board desires again to acknowledge the splendid devotion to this work of C. Julian Oberwarth, of the Kentucky Chapter, who for years has given his time and strength to the advancement of the purposes and standards of The Institute. It is greatly regretted that Mr. Oberwarth has found it necessary to resign from the Directorship of the Great Lakes District."

Recognizing that several states are working on proposed plans of unification, the convention authorized the Board to appoint a special committee to study and report on a plan that would be applicable to all states.

The New President

Mr. Ashton, a member of The American Institute of Architects since 1929 and a fellow since 1940, has been serving as treasurer for the past year and also as a member of the committee on state and municipal works, the committee on post war reconstruction and the committee on institute investments.

He is widely known in the intermountain area and has served both as president and secretary of the Utah chapter and as director of the western mountain district of A.I.A. He has attended national conventions of the architects' organizations annually for 12 years.

Two of the major war construction projects in Utah recently were completed under supervision of Ashton, Evans and Hodgson, of which Mr. Ashton is partner. These are the \$32,000,000 navy supply depot at Cleveland and the \$8,000,000 Bushnell general hospital at Brigham City.

Mr. Ashton's organization was in charge of design and construction of the navy supply depot, complete with its roads, electrical work, distribution system, sewers and other details, in cooperation with a San Francisco firm, Blanchard and Maher and Clyde C. Kennedy. Ashton, Evans and Hodgson were the sole architect-engineers for the Bushnell general hospital.

The partnership of Ashton and Evans, of which Mr. Ashton is a member, also has designed and supervised construction of other notable buildings in recent years, including the Mountain States Telephone & Telegraph Company building at Salt Lake City, The George Thomas Memorial Building at the University of Utah and the \$450,000 University of Utah union building.

Mr. Ashton studied at the University of Utah, and then began work in Salt Lake City in 1907 as an architectural draftsman. He later worked in Chicago and studied architecture at Ecole de Beaux Arts, Atelier Puckey.

Ten years ago he organized the Utah Building and Construction Congress and has been elected president since.

Statement of Raymond J. Ashton

"Never in the history of the country did the architect face a greater opportunity than today. Manufacturers, business, school districts, cities, counties, and states face the

future aware of the mistakes of the past, whether these mistakes be the result of poor planning, the utter lack of it, whether they come from failure to comprehend the demands of well-integrated society, or a balanced consideration of public well-being. The time for planning the future is now. Delay will lead to post-war catastrophe which will dim the memory of the years nineteen hundred thirty to nineteen hundred thirty-three.

"In our cities, blighted areas are recognized and they must be reclaimed. Property owners and financial institutions have become conscious of the relation of their individual holdings to the whole community plan and operation. Every city, town, and roadside is crying for attention, and demanding correction of its mistakes. Lost values must be restored. The overall structure must, through wise planning, be improved. No community is too small or too large to not have felt this need for change. Public officials are less disposed to shrink from attention to these problems. The day of building for the immediate present only is past. Serious and universal concern is being given to the future. The safety and welfare of the future will be directly proportional to this advance planning. To this end every architect in America and every manufacturer of building materials has dedicated his efforts.

"New patterns and new materials will appear but they will be only incidental to the solution of the major problem—the providing of better and more complete accommodations for an integrated society."

A View of Raymond J. Ashton As Seen In a Competitor's Mirror

By Lloyd W. McClenahan, A.I.A., Salt Lake City, Utah

Late in the year of 1942 we of the Utah Chapter A.I.A. received a communication suggesting that the members of our chapter consider nominating Raymond J. Ashton for the presidency of The American Institute of Architects. We all knew Ray and knew of his unselfish devotion to the Institute, its committees and to the office of treasurer. But, the office of President! Isn't this just aspiring to unattainable heights? Certainly, we each knew he was qualified to fill the requirements. What would be the attitude of the other chapters? Why should they honor a member of such a small, isolated chapter as ours by electing one of our members to such a high office, no matter how well qualified?

Then the research started, and the revelation was complete. We were the blind, and our contemporaries were more aware than we of the virtues of Ray Ashton.

Only after repeated solicitation and pleading from many sources would he consider or allow the proposal of nomination and then only with the understanding that his attitude be maintained, one of passive non-belligerency. Again his modesty was astonishing for such a dynamic, progressive gentleman.

The firm of Ashton and Evans is the leader in our region and while they have been commissioned for the greatest portion of the work, I, for one, can say that he has always been fair and ethical in his dealings, both to his client and to his fellow architects. And I am only envious of his ability and skill.

Now that the 75th Annual Meeting is recorded in the annals of history and the final curtain is drawn, we find we have elected a new president whose sound, clear thinking and constructive aggression should carry us through these uncertain and perilous times.

If competitors we must have, why can't we have more like Raymond J. Ashton?

Dear Talmage Hughes:

I would really like to come (to convention) and pal around a little with my profession-poor devils, what is to become of them? But I don't feel that it would be so pleasant for them. As I look back I find no reason to think otherwise.

—Frank Lloyd Wright

The New Secretary

Alexander C. Robinson III comes from Pittsburgh, originally, but has practiced architecture for the past twenty-three years in Cleveland in the office of Garfield, Harris, Robinson & Schafer. He has been a partner since 1926. His technical education began at Princeton and was followed



Robinson

by the course in architecture at Columbia. Since going to Cleveland he has taken part and has been a leader in many public and semi-public activities. He has been a member of the County Planning Commission for nine years, president of the local Chapter of the A.I.A. twice, and treasurer for one term, president of the Cleveland Humane Society, a trustee of Western Reserve University and Cleveland School of Art. He is also a trustee of the Music School Settlement. These are interesting activities and indicate a wide spread public spirit, which is an essential for an architect, and especially for one of the Institute officers.

Ingham Honored

For his "distinct contribution to the profession of architecture," Charles T. Ingham, of Pittsburgh, was signally honored by The Institute at the closing session.

After serving the past nine years as Institute secretary, Ingham had declined to be a candidate for reelection. He joined the Institute in 1913 and in 1932 was made a Fellow.

Ingham is senior member of the Pittsburgh firm of Ingham and Boyd. He studied architecture at the University of Pennsylvania and worked as a draftsman with Peabody and Stearns, of Boston, and Rutan and Russell, of Pittsburgh.

Among the work of his firm are buildings for the Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania, Frick Training School for Teachers, Administration Building for the Board of Public Education, Gymnasium and Dining Hall for Shady Side Academy, Waverly Presbyterian Church, Chatham Village, and the Buhl Planetarium, all of Pittsburgh.

The firm of Ingham and Boyd have become best known nationally for its Chatham village, a successful demonstration of the principles of large scale, long term, rental investment, offering a quality of community maintenance and social security not otherwise to be had.

Mr. Ingham is a past-president of the Pittsburgh Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, Honorary Corresponding member of the Royal Institute of British Architects, ex-president of the Pittsburgh Architectural Club, member of Pennsylvania Board of Examiners of Architects, and Director of the Pittsburgh Housing Association.

Our Thanks to Walter MacCormack

Walter R. MacCormack, Dean of the School of Architecture, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, was re-elected vice-president.

MacCormack, formerly a prominent architect of Cleveland, Ohio, represents a rare combination of the practical and the academic. Having served for several years as Institute vice-president, he had been named chairman of its post war reconstruction committee. His friends had urged that he become a candidate for president but this he declined to do because of his great interest in the important subject of his committee. His work had been so thoroughly done that it was natural that this topic be made the keynote of the convention.

His report formed the basis of the chief session of the convention, as well as for open discussion at other sessions. The chief objects of the post war reconstruction committee are stated as being not in the direction of issuing a statement on any and all the subjects representing the details of a program but rather to organize the Institute, chapter by chapter, to take part in a vigorous attack on the rebuilding program immediately after the annual meeting, with action covering a very wide field, from actual planning to a suggested program of education, including public schools, universities and colleges.

"We are now struggling with chaotic conditions created

ly the mass of obsolete, obsolescent and unrelated structures which overwhelm our cities and discourage the financing of new buildings on a huge scale," the MacCormack report stated.

"The situation calls for planning new construction by areas and districts, carried out in cooperation with Government and civic interests, to remove the blight from American towns and cities and to make them more livable and efficient in all respects.

"To develop this third and perhaps the largest field of construction activity, new and improved methods and new organizations will be required. An essential part of the problem is how to go about creating an enlightened public opinion with respect to the many intricate problems involved in the great task of reconstruction.

"The building industry includes not only those who manufacture, plan, and build, but other groups whose financial and economic interests are closely joined to construction problems. This committee has suggested that there be created a national organization consisting of representatives of all elements of the industry, and the purpose of which would be to consider the various problems involved and to arrive at conclusions which would form a basic policy for action in the entire country."



CHARLES E. FIRESTONE, of Canton, Ohio, was elected president of the Society of Architectural Examiners, at its meeting with the A.I.A. 75th Convention.

CIVILIAN DEFENSE BUILDING INSPECTOR

Joseph P. Wolf, Commissioner of Buildings and Safety Engineering, City of Detroit has, by virtue of authority vested in him by Ordinance 317-D and by request of Mr. McLaury, Director of Civilian Defense for Detroit, appointed members of the City's Shelter Engineers' Committee as Supervisors of Civilian Defense Building Inspectors.

The Shelter Engineers' Committee, composed of representatives of organizations in the building industry, including architects, engineers and builders, has enlisted volunteer "Shelter Engineers" to survey the various areas of the city and designate certain buildings as suitable air raid shelters.

The next step is to enlist these Shelter Engineers as Civilian Defense Building Inspectors, as provided by the new ordinance, invested with authority, in case of an air-raid, to inspect damaged buildings and order them roped off, razed or demolished, to safeguard the public.

Qualified architects or architectural draftsmen, willing to serve, are requested to get in touch with the Bulletin office.

NEW MAIL ADDRESSING PLAN REQUIRES DELIVERY STATION NUMBERS

Cards Giving Everyone His Number and Explaining System Designed to East Postal Task Will be Distributed

Postmaster Roscoe B. Huston, in accordance with instructions issued by Postmaster General Frank C. Walker, placed the Detroit Postal area, which includes Highland Park, Hamtramck, Ferndale, Lincoln Park, River Rouge, Ecorse and all of Grosse Pointe on the new Station number system of addressing mail. This system, while seemingly complicated, merely adds a numeral after the name of the city to indicated the delivery district of the addressee.

The system has long been used in London, Paris and other large European cities, as well as in Canada and has been authorized for use in 178 of this country's largest cities including Detroit, Battle Creek, Flint, Grand Rapids, Jackson, Kalamazoo, Lansing, Muskegon, Pontiac and Saginaw.

A typical example of the new address plan as used in Detroit would be:

Mr. Richard Roe
1271 W. Troy Ave.,
Ferndale 20, Mich.

Mr. Huston today released a list of the station numbers for the 30 delivery units which serve the Detroit area. He said that mail must first be separated to the 30 delivery units at the Roosevelt Park Annex and on inbound trains. At present, this distribution requires that several hundred clerks memorize the delivery area of each of the branches in the entire city to know exactly what part of each street falls with the territory of each unit.

Distribution Requires Much Study

"This work," he said, "requires intensive study and can only be performed by experienced clerks who have studied the distribution schemes for long periods. In the Detroit area, which includes the independent municipalities which are branches of Detroit, the clerks doing this type of work are required to memorize more than 3,300 items."

"The Post Office has not asked for any draft deferment and has lost over 25% of its trained employees. Replacements have been made with temporary inexperienced help, many on a part-time basis. It is in an effort to distribute the mail accurately and expeditiously and keep what is now a record breaking volume of mail moving, that the new plan has been adopted. When mail is addressed as suggested, it will be possible for even an inexperienced clerk to quickly separate the mail as indicated by the number."

Resident to Get Numbers

"As soon as the material can be prepared" the Postmaster said, "cards showing the number of each resident's district will be placed in their mail boxes by the carriers. In addition, a map showing the division of the Postal area with the numbers for each delivery unit will be published in the daily papers and in all other publications which we can reach."

"We will try to reach the public by radio, in the theatres and through the schools. Publishers of newspapers, magazines and periodicals, and firms and individuals making large mailings can send their mailing lists to the Post Office and have the correct delivery station number entered. Schools, churches, clubs and fraternal organizations will be approached and asked to take part in the campaign."

"Each individual in the future should include a return address which gives his delivery station number. The addressee of the mail will thus be informed of the writers number and may then use it in answering."

Difficult Task Forecast

"This is going to be a difficult task" said Postmaster Huston, and it is going to take time, but if everybody, individuals alike take up this plan and cooperate we can get it working within a short time. The important thing is to get people to use their own delivery station number in connection with their return address on all of their mail. This is a war measure—we must keep the mail moving."

PARKWAY PROJECT PROGRESSES

Topographical maps which would cost more than Fifty Thousand Dollars and take months to compile have been turned over to the Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority by the Detroit Edison Company, according to George W. McCordic, engineer-director of the Authority. The maps show all of the physical features of the Huron River valley including the exact locations of hills, valleys, lakes and streams, as well as all elevations.

"Made by Gardner Williams some years ago when the Edison Company was checking the possibilities of water power from the Huron River, the surveys are extremely well done and, in addition to saving a large amount of money, will expedite the work of selecting the route of the proposed Parkway along the river valley," McCordic explained.

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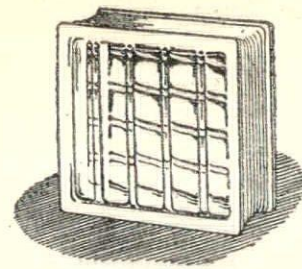
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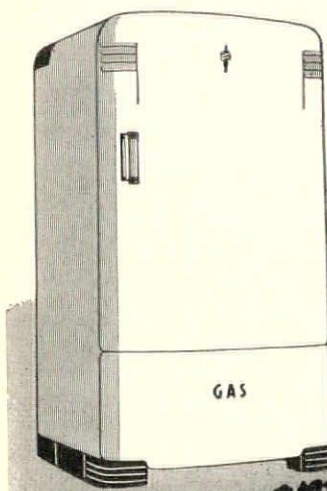
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Volume 17

DETROIT, MICHIGAN, JUNE 15, 1943

No. 24

ANNUAL ADDRESS OF THE PRESIDENT

Richmond H. Shreve, at the 75th Annual Meeting of The
American Institute of Architects, Cincinnati, May 26, 1943

We being now thus free to indulge our fancy in the home of our friends, you are invited, as in other years, to consider the reports made to you by your Board of Directors, and by your Treasurer, which documents have been melded with the statement to be made you by your President, in the hope that it, or they, may be thereby made more palatable.

The Annual Meeting of The Board just closed has been unusual in the more than 100% attendance.

There were present three Directors sitting in the stead of three who had resigned in the year past. There were present also by invitation others whose election is indicated in succession to those Officers and Directors whose terms expire at the close of this Annual Meeting. None were present as to whom the book-makers are still laying odds. The change in personnel will be eight in number, more than half the whole Board.

The presence of all of these men is evidence of our belief that in these days there is strength in preparation through working together, and their cooperation has been of great value to The Institute.

The Institute might very well consider the continuance of this practice of having the incoming Officers and Directors sit with their outgoing colleagues at the Annual Board Meeting preceding the Convention.

There have been present also during The Board's sessions representatives of the Associations and other groups listed on the Program for our meetings. The merging of our thought and theirs is essential to the success of the work which we and they together plan for the days ahead. To them our greetings and best wishes.

The reports of your Directors bring to The Board a measure of the state of the profession and The Institute throughout the nation.

As would naturally be expected, the actions and policies of The Board of Directors with respect to the affairs of The Institute have been influenced by these reports and to some extent controlled also by the circumstances of a world-wide war. The program of this Meeting has been prepared with these influences in mind. Emphasis has been placed on those



Shreve

matters which, in the opinion of The Board, are most deserving of the considered thought and judgment of the delegates.

If there has been an apparent lack of attention to the aesthetic, we can plead only that we have stuck to those things which at the moment meant life or death to much of The Institute and to many of all of us, and which affected our practicality rather than our artistry.

This sense of self-protection, together with our determination to do well the novel tasks which were presented, has led architects throughout the country to consider seriously several of a number of suggestions intended for the betterment of The Institute and the architects as a whole.

For instance, there are those who propose that in the manner of the American Medical Association, we should retain an outstanding personality with a background of long experience in Washington, to be paid a good salary, working for the profession year in and year out.

Others look for the day when we shall have as the Institute Secretariat an Executive Secretary, a Washington representative, an Editor responsible for our published material, and a Field Secretary constantly in touch with our membership through visits to their local centers.

Our broadening membership and our increasingly numerous problems of social and legal contacts have occasioned careful study in another direction contemplating an integrated membership organization combining national, state, and local elements, pooling and sharing our income and making particular assignments of our duties and responsibilities. This would be the ultimate complete expression of that unification of the architects to which, in recent years, increasing attention has been given.

The Board points out that:

(See SHREVE, Page 3)

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SHREVE (Cont'd from Page 1)

Unification by combining existing organizations is to be considered in comparison with the creation of a profession united through corporate membership in the Institute.

After reviewing the advances already made and the principles which should be established for greatest strength, it is the judgment of the Board:

"1. That we continue the present policy of encouraging state associations and their affiliation with The American Institute of Architects, including their representation in Institute affairs through delegates to the annual meeting and through the State Association Director.

"2. That we continue our efforts to bring into corporate membership of The American Institute of Architects all qualified architects of good character in the United States.

"3. That the ideal of unification is that The American Institute of Architects be the national organization of all qualified architects of good character in the United States, formed into state associations consisting of one or more chapters of corporate members of The Institute.

"Where only one chapter exists, it shall function as the state association."

There is active discussion of this ideal throughout the nation, supported by professional groups endeavoring to find means of bringing about local cooperation which will approach this ideal.

A comprehensive unified system of dues and a proportioned sharing of expenses would place a premium on the broadest feasible membership as a means of assuring the greatest practicable professional effort at the lowest unit cost.

This thought has come to have such significant possibilities as to appeal even to some traditionally the advocates of the Academy, aesthetes, supposed to exist untroubled by the hair shirts proffered them by the realists.

* * *

It would appear that some such comprehensive organization must necessarily evolve in time, under the pressure of regulatory influences, from the home-rule type of system from which our present membership has come into being.

As an illustration—there has come to The President confidentially a communication circulated among members of a municipal Civil Service organization challenging the award of architectural commissions for municipal Post-War work to "outside" firms.

This "spoils" system, it is stated, "perils" the right of the Civil Service employee exclusively to design and supervise public works. Its is complained that "year after year" bills have been introduced to remedy this condition and to insure a monopoly of this work, "But to no avail. The private architects' 'lobby' has been growing stronger and stronger and something drastic must be done immediately to destroy this parasite."

And this is said of us who had thought ourselves discriminated against and neglected! Certainly the adverse forces of the day may still arouse throughout the profession a sense of the need of coherence lest our organized existence be affected.

All of these proposals derive much of their support from those who believe that Government work is basically essential to the successful practice of Architecture. Others, content to contemplate private practice only, see nevertheless the need of representation in governmental halls because of the many new forms of taxation, of wage and hour control, of labor's organization, of new employer responsibilities in a withholding tax on income, of increased government regulation such as wage stabilization limitations and controls. Even that "confounded income tax" has not become less confounded in the recent months.

Aware of these searching explorations by an harassed membership, the Board of Directors has studied possible courses of effective action. It is not the Institute's intention to oppose or avoid governmental regulation but it is our duty to understand and advise. To this end a committee of the corporate members, which had been studying quietly the whole question of our approach to the seat of federal authority, has been expanded to constitute national representation for the purpose of educating ourselves to acquaint our local federal legislators with the problems and the wishes

SECOND GOLF OUTING

Tuesday, June 15th, 1943

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BILL SEELEY, Chairman

of the architects of the nation. A statement prepared by this Committee on the Architect and Governmental Relations has gone to each Chapter President and to each State Association Member of the Institute, **urging our membership to acquaint our Representatives and Senators with the planning professions and their fitness for performing the technical services for which they have been trained.** The discussions should be informative in character and not in the nature of seeking employment for a particular office or profession, although as architects we shall necessarily present most fully the phases of the work with which we are most concerned. We can make it clear that we, with other business men, believe that the functions of bureaus should be limited to determining policy, assembling data, preparing typical programs or standards, assisting in technical services and contracting for professional services.

There is now before the House of Representatives a bill to require the registration of persons engaged in influencing legislation or Government contracts and activities. Persons so engaged if not registered may be severely punished. It is a matter of common knowledge that this bill is aimed at the irregularities of the procurement or lobbyist agent whose purpose is to secure contracts or influence legislation in the special interest of his employer. While it has not been The Institute's policy to attempt to influence Government action or legislation in relation to specific contracts or to benefit particular individuals, we have intended to benefit the Architects of the country as a whole, and so indirectly to benefit the Institute. We are, therefore, acting within the definition of this bill, and so we come within its registration requirements, perhaps even if we do but call to pass the time of day with a Government official. Thus there is raised for The Institute the question of our position and procedure in our relationship with Government agencies through our efforts to help the profession.

One course of action would be to seek an amendment to the bill exempting from registration those organization which, like The Institute, are now exempt from income taxation under the provisions of the Internal Revenue Code.

Were we to do this we would simply place ourselves alongside those agencies which maintain representation in Washington in support of social purposes, such as National Planning, which we have urged and are actively supporting through our office in Washington.

While much of what we have been reviewing is associated with our relation as a national organization and as individual citizens to our governmental agencies, national, state, county or municipal, we should recognize that at the present time, work from those sources, and chiefly from the Federal agencies, is of unusual and unreal importance to us. No true and lasting prosperity can be founded on the destructive activities which now engage our energies.

It is, therefore, all the more opportune that we have built our program on Thursday around the necessity for organizing ourselves to collaborate with all forward looking men and women now and in that day when we shall turn one more to our truly prime interest, the planning for what is to be done at home.

In this field, we shall be "on our own" once more. Quot-

ing Mr. McIver, President of the Montana Chapter, "the profession should take stock of itself, broaden its field of knowledge . . . and then take its rightful place and lead—not just go along." That the stock-taking may not be too long delayed, we have placed on the program for this afternoon a discussion of our Architectural Education, in respect to which the Board feels that we in practice have a greater responsibility than we have yet assumed—and, I may add, than the schools have yet offered us, to help in the establishment of effective curricula.

It is not the intention here now to anticipate the subjects scheduled for consideration at these special sessions. It is enough if we are able to make clear to ourselves and to our fellow citizens that when we and they take up again our normal lives, those who will be able to be of most service will be those who will have prepared the way for all of us to build.

That we are awake to the opportunity can be realized by mere observation of the contents of the April OCTAGON.

There is the announcement of the creation of the **American Architectural Foundation** through which The Institute may carry on its work in Education with assurance of entire freedom from taxation as to the gifts as well as to the administration of the income of the fund. We should have been in a stronger position with relation to conditions which we have reviewed this morning if such bequests as those of Mr. Waid could have been made a part of such administrative system. The future of the Octagon House as an historic monument may quite possibly rest on this method of segregating our Special Funds. We should make known this possibility to those intending to place funds in the keeping of The Institute.

The April OCTAGON contains also a sheaf of letters from the files of the Washington Representative commenting on various aspects of our professional status and The Institute activities. The comment is both critical and helpful. Its appearance is indicative of a worthwhile introspection from which we may well benefit. We shall have more of this sort of thing from our discussion this afternoon.

In anticipation of our program for Thursday, there appears in THE OCTAGON a part of the report of the Institute's Committee on Post-War Reconstruction. A great deal of thought has been given to this field of professional activity in which we should take the leadership. The sessions of our Annual Meeting tomorrow morning and afternoon, under the leadership of Vice-President Mac Cornack, should bring much of value to the effort our Chapters are making in the Post-War Program.

This Chapter effort is well illustrated by the publication in the April and May issues of THE OCTAGON of statements on the work of three Chapters, Pittsburgh, Washington and Southern California, which are splendid examples of well-directed application of our energy and initiative, without which we shall lose the leadership which we should hold.

There would be no question of the usefulness of THE OCTAGON to the profession if we could maintain this standard of material, which is possible of publication only through the interest and cooperation of our members. It is a valuable illustration of the old truth that we gain more as we give more.

As proof to you that we are capable of meeting the challenge of the opportunity before us, let us look at our own record for the two years just past.

When, two years ago, we met at Yosemite, it was in a setting unsurpassed for beauty and splendor, but under a depressing realization that not all was well with The Institute. For two years, we had encountered operating deficits, a smaller figure in 1939 but a staggering twenty thousand dollars in 1940. Our reserve fund was all but exhausted, our membership had in ten years lost ten percent; we were in debt for the first time in years; and the management of Institute activities had been largely removed from the direct control of the corporate members.

Today a different picture is presented by your Treasurer's report, one calculated to arouse your warm appreciation of the management of your interests by your Board of Directors.

These things have been accomplished:

An obligation to The Producers' Council holding over from 1940 has been met in full, and our relationship with them is stronger and more filled with promise of valuable service.

The Handbook of Architectural Practice has been revised and republished at cost met from current income.

Funds withdrawn from our trusteeship of Mr. Waid's gift in support of Education in Architecture have been replaced in full.

For the last year and a half the office of the Washington Representative has actively served your interests in the nation's Capitol, and the cost of that service has been currently met, from funds currently received, although itself an addition to budgets previously authorized.

Membership measured by the number of corporate members has increased from 3022 at the end of September, 1940 to 3768 at the present time, and members affiliated with The Institute through the state associations bring our total strength of 6143, a greater number than ever before in The Institute's history.

Financial support has been given to the National Architectural Accrediting Board—heretofore left inactive.

The new Administration Building has been made a source of income instead of an expense.

In this two years every debt has been paid, including our obligation to restore the Emergency Loan Fund to its full reserve level, \$20,000; and now, free from debt, we face the future with more dollars of cash working capital in hand than two years ago we had in debt or deficit, or through all our history we have ever had at one time. These things have been made possible by your dues paid, including your voluntary payment of added dues; by subscriptions from the Chapters; and by special contributions from offices of Institute members, and in some cases offices of professional men not members of The Institute, including engineers, whose cooperation we greatly value.

As a result of this support, and through economical and wise administration by The Treasurer and other members of The Board, we meet you assured that within any probability now possible to foresee, we shall weather the next few years successfully.

If for each of the seventy-four annual meetings which we have held we had put aside \$10,000 as invested funds to secure income for our benefactions we would approximate the sum for which we are trustees. Two years ago the market value was below cost as carried on our books; today's value is well above cost. No credit is claimed for this good fortune by The Investment and Property Committee, but The Board has warmly commended Mr. De Gelleke, Mr. Marston and Mr. Ashton for their sound administration of their trusteeship.

This is a picture of responsibility.

It is also a picture of strength of recovery, of courage, and of high standards and all of these, in you, The Institute possesses abundantly.

Our first responsibility is to help to win the war, by giving of ourselves, as General Newton, Captain Simons, Captain Del Gaudio, Lieutenant Commander Staub and a hundred eighty-four others of our membership are doing in the national services.

With our resources, we should support the Government, as we have done by investing one-third of our funds in Government Bonds.

More than we have been permitted to we stand ready to support national activity in war, or in related industry; with our skill in building, in the use of materials, in methods of construction; with speed, with sound structure, with durability, economy and fitness; for the shelter of persons or of production lines, or of our armed forces.

We must then prepare ourselves, and through our leadership prepare our fellow citizens, to rebuild the world, to replan our own out-moded concepts. The January OCTAGON carried this statement looking toward our post-war work.

"It is the President's firm conviction that our individual opportunities will not have changed greatly, that ability and initiative will still have the right of way, that our participation will be what we make it, and that we shall not advance ourselves by depending altogether

on others. Look about you as the story of the world and your home community unfolds and count yourself as one who can have a part in the leadership if you are equal to the task."

There is a fine ringing challenge in the militant declaration of the Southern Californians that they elect as their work shop "the entire coastal basin from the mountains to the sea."

Fortunately, that still leaves a bit of the United States to the rest of us!

When this struggle is over there will come a day when the leaders will assemble to offer thanks, to honor the dead, to promise a new service, to perpetuate the ideals which we hold. To accomplish this they will seek the works of the great architects, of the great artists, as the only adequate expression of the faith, the courage, the resolution, the sense of integrity which will fill the people's hearts—and the artistry of that setting will not be that of the slide—rule and the logarithm.

In the belief that there are those among you who will serve our country-men at that time I commend to you the inherent virtues of a good architect, honesty, industry, skill, resourcefulness, imagination and leadership.

These are your strength! With them, the future belongs to you!

To meet the growing demand, the Detroit Institute of Technology will offer Russian this Summer in its regular curriculum. The course will be taught by Mr. E. Litvinoff, a highly educated Russian who has had much experience in teaching this language. The method used will be a short cut to basic Russian which eliminates all non-essential details.

There is a growing need for this language in America, looking ahead to war and post war needs. Men in the Army, and the Navy, aviators, and in fact all men going into the service will find this an opportunity to master a language that may be of great use to them later.

With the opening up of the country of Russia after the war there should be a great opportunity to those in business and travel who are masters of this language.

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WEEKLY BULLETIN

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Volume 17

DETROIT, MICHIGAN, JUNE 22, 1943

No. 24 (7-24)

MEETING OF ARCHITECTS

Friday, June 25, 1943

Dinner at 6:30 P.M.

\$1.75 dinner for \$1.00, the difference to be subsidized by your organizations

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MEMBERS, DETROIT CHAPTER, A.I.A. AND DETROIT DIVISION M.S.A., ALL ARCHITECTS
INVITED TO ATTEND

SUBJECT: Detroit's proposed Post War Construction program and what part (if any) the architects are to have in it.

PRELIMINARY MEETING OF THE TWO BOARDS AND THEIR COMMITTEES THAT HAVE TO DO WITH THE
SUBJECT WILL BE HELD AT E. S. D. TUESDAY, JUNE 22, 7:30 P.M.

Detroit's proposed post war construction program of something over \$85,000,000 has been approved by the City Council, at least to the extent of appropriating funds for planning.

It is officially stated that plans for these projects, including \$15,000,000 for housing, \$9,000,000 for schools and various buildings in connections with other parts of the program, will be prepared in City departments—Public Works, City Engineer's office and City Plan Commission. These departments are to be built up to huge architectural and engineering bureaus.

Over \$280,000 has been appropriated for planning during the coming year, by the Department of Public Works alone,

for detailed plans and working drawings of projects totaling some \$37,000,000.

It is inconceivable that architects, engineers and draftsmen, together forming a considerable army could be expected to support such an unamerican program, financially and otherwise, that will mean contributing to their own extinction. Nor can the building industry afford to stand by and see this happen, for if the City decides to be its own architect and engineer there would seem to be no good reason why it should stop there. It might as well be its own builder. Soon there would be left little for the citizen to do—except to pay the costs.

If the City departments are so good let them pay the bill.

See POST-WAR—Page 4

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certifying that your temperature at the time of delivery was at or near the boiling point, with zero weather outside.

3. Your entire financial set-up must be revised (FPHA Form 501). In your present optimistic state of mind it may be difficult for you to see the necessity of this but provision must be made for possible expansion.

In view of the above, your best move would be to forget about the whole business. If this, in your slightly deranged mental state, seems impossible, you may be assured of the forgiveness of high heaven if you and your lady choose to live together in sin pending the arrival of the official approval envelope, penalty for private use \$300. This should be coming along about the time your eldest son or daughter is ready for high school.

Yours, with deep sympathy,
EDITOR, The Lampoon

Gasoline stations were, before the war, steadily becoming better looking. Tastefully designed and landscaped, they were becoming an addition to the appearance of the roadside instead of something to look away from.

In view of this improvement, perhaps after the war something can be done to improve the architecture of that eyesore to which everyone has become accustomed, but an eyesore none the less—the ordinary backyard garage. Increased adoption of the recent plan of putting the garage on the street front, with the living room facing the back garden, may help somewhat.—*Elgin, Ill. Courier News.*

Floyd Y. Parsons, 67-year-old architect of Patterson, N. J., who died April 26, wrote his will on the back of an architect's sketch of a University of Michigan woman's dormitory. The will said that "in expectation of someday becoming an angel" he bequeathed his estate to his three sons, Floyd of Fair Lawn, John, Caanan, N. Y., and Hugh, Gaithersburg, Md. The architect's widow lives in Gaithersburg.

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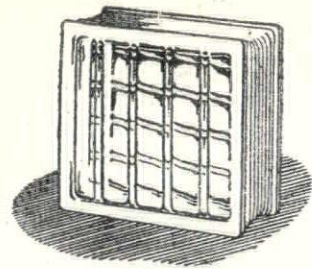
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PRODUCERS' COUNCIL LOOKS AHEAD

When the bells and the whistles of the nation sing out the thrilling news of the end of the World War, industry must be prepared to get down to brass tacks, so to speak, and provide an economy in which every man and woman in the nation may continue to find lucrative employment. That is the tenor of a post-war planning program projected at the twentieth annual meeting of the Producer's Council, the national association of manufacturers of building materials and equipment, held in connection with The American Institute of Architects, 75th Annual Meeting, Cincinnati, May 25-28.

Pointing out that the construction industry constitutes between one-third and one-half of the national economy keynote speakers pointed out that the millions of people who look to construction as the source of employment and income expect this industry to be the most vital element in the re-establishment of the nation's economy after the war."

Much emphasis was placed on the fact that the Producers' Council is the major industry organization to integrate its post-war planning program closely with the Committee for Economic Development; and that other industries, impressed with the value of the planning steps taken by the Council, are patterning their programs after that of the Council.

The keynote of the Cincinnati meeting was sounded in the following recommendations submitted by Russell G. Creviston, Chicago, General Chairman of the Postwar Committee of the Council, and a member of the Advisory Board of the Committee for Economic Development:

"Accept as our over-all objective the providing and sustaining of a volume of construction and resultant employment in the post-war period sufficient to support a national economy of maximum employment, production and consumption.

"Accept the responsibility for proper integration of this program to our own management to the end that it becomes integrated with our own company post-war plans.

"Accept the responsibility of enlisting the interest and active participation of non-member manufacturers and non-producing branches, particularly those closely related to our own lines.

"Secure data on length of time required for re-conversion.

"Develop order by which our members of the armed services should be demobilized.

"Determine possible general effect of technological developments on future of construction and rate of change to be expected.

"Ascertain rate of production in factories and on site which can reasonably be expected.

"Request the Construction and Civic Development Department of the U. S. Chamber of Commerce to appoint a post-war sub-committee to co-ordinate the proposals of the Producers' Council and other branches of the construction industry, to bring about concerted action toward maximum employment in the construction industry in the post war period and arrange for a general post-war conference of the construction industry late this year or early in 1944."

A forecast of some of the "probable conditions" after the war was made by Stuart M. Crocker, New York, vice president of the General Electric Co., and chairman of the Advisory Board of the Producers' Council, in an address at the annual dinner.

"We cannot predict with precision," he said, "but we do not dare to neglect to forecast coming postwar conditions to the best of our ability to enable us to prepare for all probable eventualities. I do not propose to do more than list some of the probably conditions:

"Markets: There will be a tremendous backlog of demand for consumer goods. There will be a strong demand for consumer durable goods beyond the replacement needs. The character and extent of these markets will depend in large measure on the methods we use to promote construction, our merchandising techniques, and vision applied to the development of markets.

"Government Subsidies: Taxes will be at high levels. Pumps priming and other depression formulas will not be feasible because, for a long period, debt service on the cost of the war should preclude direct governmental participation.

"Credit of Consumers: There may be some unemployment during reconversion. Returning soldiers may not be in good financial condition. Wage levels will, in general, be high and the accumulated savings of consumers, viewed both in terms of debt reduction and war bond investments, will be at the highest levels in our history. This purchasing power can be destroyed by uncontrolled inflation. Therefore, we may expect price regulation to continue for a time.

"Investment Funds: Capital financing will probably be reasonably easy, especially if war contracts are settled promptly and the government adopts sound policies with respect to the dispossession of surplus government inventories of commodities.

"Reemployment in industry: The extent of the reemployment problems may be indicated by pointing out that there will be from two to two-and-one-half times as many persons to be reemployed as were out of work at the worst point in the depressions.

"Urban and Housing Problems: The nature and extent of the problems of blight, municipal impoverishment, housing and other urban problem will have been dramatized and there will be an insistent demand by the public to have these problems tackled."

William B. Benton, vice president of the University of Chicago, and vice chairman of the Committee for Economic Development, spoke at the dinner on the program and progress of the Committee, particularly with relation to the construction industry.

SEABEES OFFER ADVANTAGES

Men in 1-A with experience in the building or construction trades were advised today to investigate the opportunities offered by the Navy's Construction Battalions, or Seabees, before receipt of their final induction papers.

According to Lieut. Comdr. R. G. Buller, Civil Engineer Corps, Construction Personnel Procurement Officer for this area, men who have received their induction notices no longer are eligible for the Seabees. Only men in 1-A, 3-A, or 4-H may apply for this service.

Men of draft age must obtain interviews at a Navy Recruiting Station so that their qualifications for a Navy rating may be determined before they receive induction notices. These interviews enable the Navy to clear them through their local draft boards for Seabee enlistment. Seventeen-year-olds, and men 38 through 50½, may complete Seabee enlistment directly, through the Navy Recruiting Station.

The Seabees build vitally needed air and land bases for American fighting forces in all parts of the world. Their work makes it possible to carry the offensive directly into the enemy's camp—and will undoubtedly play a major part in winning the war.

Enlistment in the Seabees offers many advantages to skilled tradesmen and artisans. Petty Officer ratings paying as high as \$188.70 per month are available in more than 50 skilled occupations. In addition, food, uniforms and clothing, living and sleeping quarters, transportation, medical and dental care and other incidentals—which would entail considerable expense in civilian life—are provided free of charge. Thus, many men leaving good-paying jobs in private industry to join the Seabees find themselves financially ahead.

DUES ARE DUE

The Society is starting a new year. All architects registered in Michigan are urged to send \$5 to L. E. Caldwell, 13606 Stoepel ave., Detroit. This will save billing, postage, and wear and tear on treasurer.

THE LAMPOON, JR.

Edited by Frank C. Stanton

Who, as Clair Ditchy says, Is One of Former Contributors, Now Devoting His Literary Talents to Extra Curricular

We've just been studying the new 37-page chapter No. 3121 in travel in our Manual of Procedure, Instructions to Regional Offices. A Mr. John Doe presents an expense account which, if we were in Jean Blair's shoes, we'd fire right back in his teeth. We don't believe a word of this amazing document. No human being could go racing to hell and gone around the country the way he says he has, leaving early and arriving late, addressing Chambers of Commerce, telephoning Mayors and telegraphing Colonels, and still have time to shop around for and keep track of onion skin paper at 10 sheets for 1c. A far more plausible story is told by our own Richard Roe whose dips into the Oregon territory are rapidly becoming a legend. We are happy to add our own certification to Mr. Roe's that the following account and schedules are true and just in all respects, that payment therefor has not been received, (and would Accounting please step on it a bit as Mr. Roe needs the dough):

	CHARACTER OF EXPENDITURE	AMOUNT	
		Sustenance	Other
	(Itemized to the minute and fairly well explained)		
April 6	Left Seattle, Washington, 11:30 p.m. via N.P.R.R. Taxi, office to depot. Cash payment demanded and paid (to avert physical combat with driver)	\$.	\$.50
April 7	Arrived Portland, Oregon, 7:35 a.m. Used public telephone in effort to obtain breakfast without cost to Government. 13 local calls at 5c.65
	Taxi, station to Masie's apartment. Breakfast of melba toast and weak coffee at no cost to the Government		1.75
	Left baggage at apartment to save checking charges. Taxi, apartment to city center, (2 persons).....		2.35
	Refreshments and lunch, Press Club	6.65	
	Small gift of lingerie for Masie (necessary to preserve amicable relations and avert a larger expenditure).	20.35	
	Matinee, 2 seat at \$2.30, (Temporary shelter).	4.60	
	Walked 1½ blocks, theatre to Housing Authority at no cost to Government. Official business, 4:55 to 5:05 p.m. Two-fifths J.W. Scotch at \$6.14 (no Government stocks available).	12.28	
	Dinner, night club, tips and hush money (Cash payments demanded and paid).	40.48	
	Taxi to station (via apartment to claim baggage).		3.15
April 8	Left Portland 2:00 a.m. (train, providentially, was 2½ hours late). Arrived Seattle 9:45 a.m. Breakfast (8 Alka-Seltzer tablets at 5c per tablet).40
	Taxi, station to turkish bath.30
		\$59.81	\$33.65
			59.81
	TOTAL		\$93.46

Our Footloose Correspondents

Mr. Harold M. Schwieter, Field Accountant, send the following, clipped from the Spokane Spokesman-Review:

WANTED—Experienced man to drive truck and set monuments in cemetery and plant helper. Position permanent. Write giving age, experience, and references in first letter. L. L. Jones and Son, Portland, Oregon.

The Legal Mind at Work

The following, copied verbatim from Article 9, Standard Government Form of Contract, wins first prize in the Great Non-Stop Sentence Derby, conducted by the Department of Utter Confusion:

"If the Government does not terminate the right of the contractor to proceed, the contractor shall continue the work in which event it will be impossible to determine the actual damages for the delay in lieu thereof the contractor shall pay to the Government as fixed, agreed, and liquidated damages for each calendar day of delay until the work is completed or accepted the amount as set forth in the specifications or accompanying papers and the contractor and his sureties shall be liable for the amount thereof; Provided, That the right of the contractor to proceed shall not be terminated or the contractor charged with liquidated damages because of any delays in the completion of the work due to unforeseeable causes beyond the control and without the fault or negligence of the contractor, including, but not restricted to acts of God, or of the public enemy, acts of the Government, acts of another contractor in the performance of a contract with the Government, fires, floods, epidemics, quarantine restrictions, strikes, freight embargoes, and unusually severe weather or delays of subcontractors due to such causes, if the contractor shall within 10 days from the beginning of any such delay (unless the contracting officer with the approval of the head of the department or his duly authorized representative, shall grant a further period of time prior to the date of final settlement of the contract) notify the contracting officer in writing of the causes of delay, who shall ascertain the facts and the extent of the delay and extend the time for completing the work when in his judgment the findings of fact justify such an extension, and his findings of fact thereon shall be final and conclusive on the parties hereto, subject only to appeal, within 30 days, by the contractor to the head of the department concerned or his duly authorized representative, whose decision on such appeal as to the facts of delay and the extension of time for completing the work shall be final and conclusive on the parties hereto."

Advice to Lovelorn Department

NATIONAL HOUSING AGENCY
FEDERAL PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

April 10, 1943

To: Mr. John W. Merrill, Regional Construction Adviser,
From: Paul R. Youngblood, Inspector, Wash-45138
Subject: Leave of absence.

Would you kindly send me an "Annual Leave" card with instructions for executing. I have decided to get married and wish to be relieved of duty for two weeks beginning April 17, 1943.

(Signed) P. R. YOUNGBLOOD

Mr. Merrill has (wisely, we think) turned the above over to us for answer, we think) as follows:

Mr. Paul R. Youngblood
Project Wash 45138
Kirkland, Washington
Dear Paul:

Your memorandum of April 10 was not surprising to us here, knowing you as we do, but the apparent casualness of your attitude is. You have been with the FPHA for some time now and should be familiar with official procedure. To refresh your memory, I am outlining below some of the steps you will have to take before your proposed nuptials may take place.

1. You must prepare affidavits showing the necessity or convenience of the proposed change. I should hate to think that you are marrying for convenience. My dear Youngblood, I do hope that yours is not a wedding of necessity!

2. Seventeen copies of the Proposal must be submitted. These must be accompanied by statements

POST-WAR (Continued from Page 1)

The argument is advanced that the City has its own legal department its hospitals, garbage disposal, street railways, etc. These are public services and are functions of government. Furthermore, when conditions of private industry become intolerable government is justified in taking over. This is not the case with the architectural and engineering professions.

Again it is said that the large utility companies have their own architects and engineers. Some do and some don't. At any rate, that's private industry, they are spending their own money and it's their own business. Henry Ford tried doing his own work and found it more costly, with results far less satisfactory. That is a matter of record.

It can be stated and it should be clearly understood by all members of the American Institute of Architects and of the Michigan Society of Architects that hiring out to such bureaus is not in the best interests of the profession. Even draftsmen will not profit by it, for the draftsmen of today are to be the architects of tomorrow.

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WEEKLY BULLETIN

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Volume 17

DETROIT, MICHIGAN, JUNE 29, 1943

No. 25

REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION OF THE PREFABRICATION COMMITTEE OF THE E. S. D.

MALCOLM R. STIRTON, Chairman

Officially this is a report by the Committee on Prefabricate Housing and its relation to Post War Planning. Actually we have very little to say about Prefabrication. We are more concerned with reducing to concrete form the many existing proposals on Post War Planning for this community. The purpose of this report is to point out to the Post War Exploratory Committee what is wrong with Post War Planning in Detroit and how the Engineering Society of Detroit can cure it.

After a preliminary investigation of Prefabrication for Post War Housing this committee met with Mr. Hunt and Mr. Knapp of your group to report and to establish our program. At this meeting it was agreed that Prefabrication was a very small part of the problem of Post War Planning and a relatively small phase of the entire construction problem. It was indicated that this committee would be expected to broaden its scope and to act as a fact-finding committee on construction problems for the E.S.D. It was suggested that we write our own ticket and select a phase of the construction industry which we would prefer to investigate. That is, to formulate a general chart of the problems involved and to consider specific details as we advanced in our work.

Our subsequent meetings held to clarify this issue naturally led us into discussions of the whole program of Post War Planning. Here is the picture as we see it:



Stirton

1. The problems of Post War Planning which effect Detroit and its related communities are the particular problems to be studied. These problems must, of course, be considered in relation to the national or world wide problem. It has been said that Detroit is the second fastest decaying city in the United States. It is no answer to say that the city has outlived its usefulness and decentralization be the result with the city allowed to decay at the core. Rather the answer must be found in a replanned city taking advantage of the economic and geographic conditions which have brought about its existence.

2. It is no longer considered slightly unpatriotic to talk of Post War Planning while we are engaged in a war. It is becoming steadily more apparent that we must now plan for the tasks of peace. When war ends, war production

ends and the resulting employment problems must be foreseen and provided for.

Post War Planning is now an established idea in the community. Every professional society and civic betterment group in Detroit has working committees organized for that study. To name a few:

Mayor's Planning Committee
Board of Commerce
Producers' Council
Architectural Societies
City Plan Commission
Citizens' Housing and Planning Council
Huron-Clinton Parkway Commission
Detroit Real Estate Board
Engineering Society of Detroit.

3. But this Post War Planning job is no simple case study. It is not a thing any one committee can evaluate, make recommendations and say, "Here is the answer to the whole problem". It is much too far-reaching, too diversified. It is industrial, social, geographical, professional, financial, health, labor, education, in short it is democratic living. That is why Post War Planning is a job for the citizen, every citizen. The entire democratic town unit must participate, the re-born city must be planned for the sake of men and not for plans.

4. It is clearly obvious that today we have all the tools necessary and at hand to tackle this problem. There are enough fact-finding committees already. Independently this array of committees will do a good job but it won't make Post War Planning. The formation of more committees will only scatter our efforts and simply mean planning for the archives.

5. What is lacking is a central, strong controlling authority; the strength of the city itself, the manufacturers,
(See STIRTON, Page 3)

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STIRTON—(Cont. Page 1)

the workers, the technicians, the sociologists, the educators; the democratic unit. It is of no avail to constitute a Mayor's Planning Committee if it simply acts when instructed and has no means of keeping the community informed as to progress.

What is necessary is the opportunity for full participation of the public in the formation of a master plan for the city, not just a master plan of street widenings but a master plan which will form the skeleton on which is based the future development of the city. It should indicate as a goal the best possible use of the land and the best possible arrangement of streets and roads, of public and private transport facilities and of terminals for them, of dwellings, of businesses, of industries, of space for recreation and education and so on. The master plan should be designed so that the program can be extended over a long period of time or compressed into a shorter one in order to keep employment well stabilized.

6. The method of bringing about this community participation involves both opportunity and pressure. The means of supplying the opportunity and the pressure to encourage participation is inherent in the Engineering Society of Detroit. It has a way to serve the community which no similar organization can provide and one which will be a real contribution to Post War Planning for this community. By the first statement of the "Objectives for Service to the Community" of the E.S.D. it becomes a moral obligation. That statement is "To assist the general public in understanding civic questions involving engineering problems by the promotion of open discussion and the publication of impartial information pertinent to civic engineering and construction problems."

The first part of that statement is the answer to community participation in Post War Planning; "To assist the general public in understanding civic questions . . . by the promotion of open discussion . . ." That is our objective.

7. As a concrete proposal we submit this program: The E.S.D., thru the Post War Exploratory Committee, should promote a public discussion or open forum with selected speakers from each phase of Post War Planning, manufacturers, realtors, government officials, city planners, architectural, engineering, citizens groups, etc. These speakers should be instructed to brief their objectives so that all the participating groups can learn what the others are planning. Formation of a city-wide committee should be encouraged much as set up in the city of Syracuse, (see Fortune magazine for May). This should embrace Research and Planning, Ways and Means, and Public Participation, to determine the city's needs and problems, how to implement their solutions, and keeping the community informed as to progress.

Intensive publicity should be sought from press and church and school and thru the participating groups themselves. The main thought is to get them all together, to acquaint them with the overall problem and the parts which they as individuals may perform. The formation of the city-wide controlling authority is imperative.

This open forum must be stressed and repeated as often as necessary, even if at first it requires considerable encouragement. The E.S.D. as the largest group of its kind, and composed of such a diversified membership, must do extensive missionary work within its own organization as well as thru it. The full power of the E.S.D. has never yet been brought to bear on the civic consciousness of the citizens of this community. It has a responsibility as a recipient of Rackham funds which had as an objective, "Public, civic and social welfare". In assuming that responsibility it will not only transform the Post War planning dreams of Detroit into concrete reality but further bring its members together in a common cause.

This report was undertaken in all sincerity and is the result of our attempt to further the achievement of Post War Planning Now. This committee will be pleased to further discuss the thought with you if you so desire or to continue to function on construction assignments.

Respectfully submitted

Stirton Ditchy Hughes
Brown Haas

STATE GROUPS PLAN FOR POST-WAR WORK

Planning Commission Names R. V. Gay, Director

With the appointment of R. V. Gay, St. John architect, as director at a meeting during the past week, Michigan's post-war planning commission has launched a nine-point program, it is reported by the Lansing State Journal.

Gay, who is a member of the board of managers of the Michigan Soldiers' home at Grand Rapids and who has served as architect for several state institutions, succeeds George C. Ross, who will remain with the commission as planning consultant.

First to be launched by the newly reorganized planning commission will be an over-all inventory of state buildings and complete program for improvements and new construction. This survey will be prepared by A. N. Languis, director of the state buildings and construction division. The sum of \$50,000 to complete this survey was appropriated by the administrative board.

The commission also directed Governor Kelly to select a policy-making committee which will study methods of coordinating state planning activities with all local governmental units including municipalities, townships, counties, and school districts.

Based on the expectancy that the state commission will serve as a clearing house and advisory agent for all state and local post-war projects, local governmental units will be urged to submit detailed improvement programs, with priorities affixed to each project and summaries of how such work can be financed.

Working in shirt sleeves throughout the day, the planning commission drew praise for its hard work from Governor Kelly, who served as chairman of the meeting. Kelly explained that he hopes to have the commission become one of the key state agencies and reminded members of the importance of swiftly coordinating a broad program which will provide the state with opportunity to later resume projects forced to a standstill by the war and to "cushion" the effect of anticipated unemployment during industrial change-over from war to peace activities.

The nine-point survey program, drafted by a committee headed by Auditor General Vernon J. Brown, embraces the field of activity in which the commission will commence operations.

Included in the program for which post-war plans will be modeled are:

State structures and facilities for transportation, including highways and airways; recreational and conservation, including state parks and playsites; economic and social conditions, embracing industrial and labor problems; veterans' rehabilitation; social aid and public welfare; education; agriculture; public finance; and legislative improvements.

The governor emphasized to the commission that all established state departments and divisions will be called upon to provide assistance in formulating the commission's program.

AN APOLOGY TO MARION MANLEY

In a report of the A.I.A. 75th Annual Meeting, in the June 8 issue of the Bulletin we undertook to quote Miss Marion Manley, A.I.A. of Coral Gables, Florida, on the subject of women architects.

The result was as follows:

"I have always preached that:

"Given equal talent and equal training, there is no reason why men shouldn't make just as good particular prejudice."

Obviously, this doesn't make sense which just isn't Marion Manley.

The correct version is:

"I have always preached that:

"Given equal talent and equal training, there is no reason why men should not make just as good architects as women. I have no particular prejudice."

Our apologies for an injustice to so gracious a person.

MICHIGAN ARCHITECTS JOIN IN NATION-WIDE MOVE

Michigan architects will participate in a nation-wide program of post-war reconstruction now being developed under the leadership of the architectural profession. Chapters of the American Institute of Architects throughout the country are organizing committees to work with the building industry and with other national and local groups in planning the vast rebuilding projects that will take shape when the war is over.

The work in Michigan will be directed by committees of the Detroit chapter of the institute and the Michigan Society of Architects. A committee of the Detroit chapter, appointed by Edward Kapp, president, consists of the following: Branson Van Leer, Gamber, Aloys F. Herman, and Arthur K. Hyde, all of Detroit.

The activity of the Michigan committee will be related to a national program formulated by a committee of the institute under the chairmanship of Dean Walter R. MacCormack of Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Buildings Obsolete

"We are now struggling with chaotic conditions created by the mass of obsolete, obsolescent and unrelated structures which overwhelm our cities and discourage the financing of new building on a huge scale," says a statement by the institute committee explaining the objectives of the movement.

"The situation calls for planning new construction by areas and districts, carried out in cooperation with government and civic interests, to remove the blight from American towns and cities and to make them more livable and efficient in all respects."

Chapter committees will cooperate with many other organizations including planners, producers, banks and insurance companies, public health and educational bodies, as

well as with chambers of commerce, real estate boards, women's clubs, and neighborhood associations.

Need United Action

"Only by united action," it is pointed out, "will it be possible to arrive at conclusions which will provide the greatest good for the greatest number of people. The enlightened selfish interests of groups should be coordinated, and any action taken must be based on the principle that the well being of the people as a nation will be reflected in advantage to the various groups. The time to set about planning for post war reconstruction is now."

"The nation is beginning to realize that large-scale design and large-scale rebuilding must be employed to bring the depreciated and decaying central areas of our cities up to a modern state of efficiency. It seems apparent that any comprehensive scheme for replanning and redevelopment must recognize the necessity for changing the point of view in planning from the basis of the individual property to the basis of the locality and to planning for groups of properties and groups of buildings, instead of for the individual building and the individual plot."

One of the first tasks of the architects will be "to clean up the building code situation." Building codes are described by the national committee of the institute as "a millstone around the neck of the building public," adding materially to the cost of construction.

ALFRED E. WEAVER

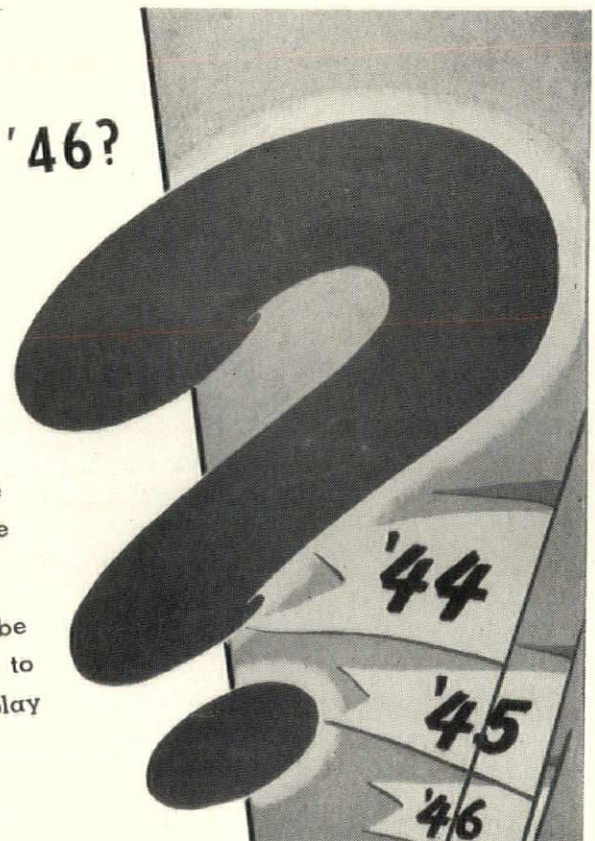
Alfred E. Weaver died Friday, June 18, following an illness of three years. Mr. Weaver, a Detroit architect, was born in Hamilton, Ont., in 1870. He was a member of the firm of Nettleton and Weaver for many years, retiring shortly before he became ill. He was a member of the IOOF and the Civitan Club. He is survived by his wife, Mary Strongman Weaver, a son, Russell S., two daughters, Mrs. H. E. Mott and Mrs. A. L. Meredith, and a grand-daughter, all of Detroit.

WHAT'S AHEAD FOR ARCHITECTS IN '44? '45? '46?

No one can predict just when the war will end. It's safe to say, though, that the architect who has looked ahead, planned for the war's ending, will be better to confront post-war problems.

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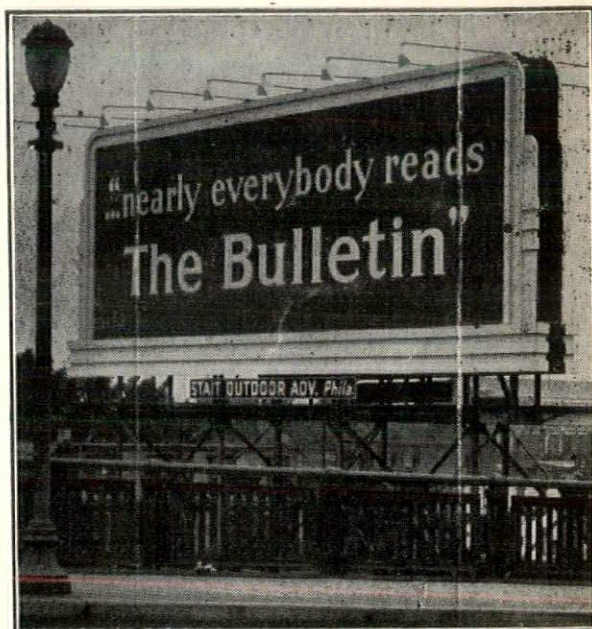
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